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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Mark C. Duhon et al. § Art Unit: 3676  
Serial No.: 09/871,240 §  
Filed: May 30, 2001 § Examiner: Frank Tsay  
For: Expandable Elements § Atty. Dkt. No.: 22.1397 (SHL.0102US)

**Mail Stop Amendment**  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED OCTOBER 22, 2007

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action of October 22, 2007, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 8 of this paper.

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Date of Deposit

*January 15, 2008*

I hereby certify under 37 CFR 1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as **first class mail** with sufficient postage on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313.

Ginger Yount

*Ginger Yount*